

From our Regular Correspondent.

Yesterday was the day of ex-President's Arthur's funeral, and all of the Executive Departments were closed and the clerks had holiday. The United States Supreme Court adjourned from Friday until Tuesday for the same reason. All of the public buildings in Washington are draped in black for the dead ex-President and flags are displayed at half mast. President Cleveland and several members of his cabinet attended the funeral and Congress was represented by a committee of Senators and Representatives.

Since the black draperies have been hung on the front portico of the White House; the President and Mrs. Cleveland take their carriage at the south entrance when they go out for a drive, and all the projected gayeties at the Executive Mansion will be postponed for the thirty days of mourning. Then the black bunting will be taken down and I folded up and laid away to do service again at the death of the next high official or ex-official of the Government, and the gay social season will begin.

The custom of shutting down on public work, and turning fifteen thousand employes loose whenever a President, ex-President, a Cabinet officer, or ex-Cabinet officer happens to die, is a questionable way of showing respect to the distinguished dead. It is a picnic for the clerks and a time for congratulation and they would be glad to multiply by a hundred fold the occasions of public sorrow that give them a day off and out. There is no doubt that the custom would be more honored in the breach than in the observance, but it is one of those things that a long line of precedent has established and it would be difficult to decide where or with whose demise it should end.

President Cleveland has been much displeased at efforts to get him to interfere in the new widely discussed Washington Public scandal. He does not feel, in the present condition of affairs, that he would be warranted in taking hold of the matter, although the time may come when he may be called upon to take some action. The President is still deeply absorbed with the preparation of his message, and although he is subjected to some unavoidable interruptions, the approaches to him are closely guarded.

The President's appointment of Mr. Fulton as Paymaster General of the Navy was very gratifying to naval officers, and his appointment of Col. Moore as Surgeon General of the Army was received with satisfaction among officers of the Army.

The regular Army officers who have been examining the militia of the States and Territories have reported commending the efficiency of the respective organization. They think, however, that the armed militia of the country would be doubled if Congress would appropriate annually a much larger sum to be distributed among the States for improved arms and accoutrements. In the latter case it is estimated that the militia would consist of 300,000 well drilled men, who could be called into active service at a moment's notice, and who would be almost as effective at the outset of a war, as the regular Army.

Many conventions and associations—more than ever before—want to come to Washington during the next year. The National Grange has decided to hold all future meetings of that order in Washington, and a committee has been appointed to take measures for the erection of a suitable building here for its officers and its sessions.

Soon after Congress meets there will be a large gathering of notabilities here to discuss the proposed Exposition at Washington in 1889 and 92. And later there is to be a convention of an educational character which will attract a good many people. It will be in the interest of Federal aid to common schools and will be composed of school superintendents from the various States and Territories.

It has been proposed that each State of the Union shall erect in this city a handsome building to be used as State headquarters, and perhaps as a residence for the Senators of the respective States. The plan, which is likely to be carried out some time, would prove a great convenience to each State, and would add much to the grandeur of the National Capital.

Washington Nov. 23, 1886.

AGENTS Wanted Everywhere. Most liberal terms.
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ALLUDING to the gallant toast of Charles Dudley Warner, of the Harper press party, to Miss Winnie Davis, at Danville, the Boston Herald says: "Fortunately Mr. Warner is a Republican editor, and, therefore, it will be difficult to fire the Northern heart by his action, but one trembles to think what might have been the eruptions at Augusta, and at Worcester had an unrepentant Democrat done this dreadful thing."

Last Sunday the Baptist Church, erected on the lot given by Hon. Jefferson Davis, was dedicated. The sermon, a most eloquent discourse, was delivered by Rev. C. H. Strickland, of Nashville, from the text found in the 28th chapter of Genesis, 16th, 18th and 19th verses. Many persons were present from Guthrie, Nashville, Clarksville, Hopkinsville and other places.

At the conclusion of his sermon the pastor, Mr. Dicken, requested that Mr. Davis say a few words to the congregation. Mr. Davis rose, and with a firm step, walked up and stood beside the pulpit. He remained silent for a moment, with possibly all the recollections of four score years welling up and taking him back when in childhood on that spot he had romped in careless innocence unmindful of the gathering storms. He spoke in a clear, collected voice as follows:

"My Fellow-Countrymen: It is with a heartfull of grateful emotions that I stand here on the spot of my nativity to assist in erecting an house to the Triune God. Nothing was so acceptable to Him as such a gift. Some of you may ask how it is that I, who am not a Baptist, should give ground for the erection of a Baptist church. I reply that my father, who was a better man than I, was a Baptist.

"We left this place during my infancy and I have never been here but once since, but I have heard with lively feeling of pleasures of your progress."

He spoke of the beautiful church which had been put up and said: "You might have preferred to have displayed a more selfish spirit, and have illustrated your tastes by grand private residences. The pioneers of this country, as I have learned from tradition, were of simple habits, and before sectarian disagreements arose or sectional strife had come, when man loved his neighbor and shared his trials and dangers, they had erected near here a house of worship to God. I did not come here to make a speech, and would not mar the grand sermon to which we have listened by attempting to make any. I come but to tender to you and your trustees and their successors forever the site on which this church stands. And may the grace of our Lord the Saviour rest on this house and fill this sacred building this day.

"You all feel more than I can express, and it would not be proper for me to attempt to say what I would wish to say, and I will just take leave of you here."

As Mr. Davis sat down Mr. Dicken stepped forward and in a few happy words returned thanks to Mr. Davis for the gift of the ground. He said that Mr. Davis' modesty had restrained him from saying anything of the beautiful communion service which he had presented to the church.

The Rev. Samuel Baker of Russellville then offered the prayer of dedication.

Some of his remarks as noted by the American correspondent:

After dinner the great crowd separated. Mr. Davis and his party driving in a close carriage seven miles to Pembroke. There almost an ovation was tendered him. Many of the citizens turned out and shook him by the hand. He entered the waiting room of the railway station and spent about an hour waiting for the arrival of the south bound train. During the wait he talked very freely to those by whom he was surrounded and gave some very marked opinions upon various questions of general interest.

A gentleman in the party said: "Mr. Davis, recently, while reading a Northern paper, I found related a little incident about your swearing Abraham Lincoln into the United States Army. Is there any truth, whatever in the story?"

"Not one grain. And you may set it down as a general proposition that everything you see published in a Northern paper about me is totally false."

"What do you think of the Blair bill?"

"I am a Southern man and a strong believer in the doctrine of States rights. I favor the education of the people, but am opposed to the National Government coming in and proposing to educate our children. It would be unwise to accept the provisions of the bill."

Mr. Davis, referring, in the desultory conversation to a number of old friends, spoke in high terms of Gov. Bate, whom he esteemed for his valor as a soldier and as an eloquent and good man.

"Mr. Davis, what do you think of President Cleveland and his administration?"

"Oh, I'm shut out there, you know," returned Mr. Davis, with a smile upon his face; "I'm not supposed to have an opinion. But I will say that in all his dealings he has exhibited honesty and a strong determination. When we remember that he went into the presidential chair with little political experience, none in fact outside the State of New York, there's no doubt but that he has done well. He might have done much worse."

"Don't you believe that President Jackson was right when he said that 'to the victor belongs the spoils'?"

"Without answering your question, I'll state that the quotation you used has been erroneously attributed to President Jackson. It was first used by Senator Marcy, of New York, in the course of a debate."

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BLOCH BROS.

In discussing prominent men of a former generation, allusion was made to the distinguished and eloquent Sargent S. Prentiss, of Mississippi. Mr. Davis said: "I knew him well and have often met him upon the stump and in political meetings. I esteemed him personally very highly, though we differed very widely on political questions. He was the most powerful stump speaker I ever met and the most eloquent man this country has ever produced. I heard his speech in Congress in the celebrated Mississippi contested election case, and shall never forget the impression it made upon me."

Mr. M. H. Clark, whose guest Mr. Davis at present is, stated yesterday afternoon to the reporter that it had been published of him that he was private secretary to President Davis. This was wrong and he desired it corrected, as he did not want any distinction to which he was not entitled. He was chief and confidential clerk in the executive office of the Confederacy.

Mr. Clark stated also that Mr. Davis had received many urgent telegrams inviting him to come to Nashville. He did not know whether he would accept or not. Mr. Davis would accompany him home and after a day's rest would decide definitely.

Mr. Davis said to the reporter that he desired very much to visit Nashville. He was, however, suffering greatly with neuralgia, and owing to the very bad weather would probably go directly home from Clarksville.

Married.

Our old friend, M. V. Ingram, long known in connection with the press of Clarksville, and now connected with the editorial department of our neighbor, the Democrat, was happily married at the residence of Mr. Finley Mitchell, father of the bride, in Robertson county, to Mrs. Annie E. Dixon on Wednesday the 24th instant. The ceremony which solemnized the rites was performed by Rev. George L. Beale.

The attendants were T. E. McReynolds, W. W. Barksdale, and Warren Ingram of Clarkville, and Mr. Polk Prince, of Guthrie.

The party came down to Mr. Ingram's elegant home in the city Wednesday evening where they received the welcome and congratulations of many friends. The CHRONICLE extends to its old comrade and his bride its warmest wishes for a long and happy life.

A special to the American says: Mr. M. V. Ingram, the American's accomplished Clarksville correspondent, was to-day united in marriage to Mrs. Annie Mitchell, daughter of S. F. Mitchell, a prominent and wealthy farmer of Robertson county. The groom, a widower, in his fifties, while the bride is a handsome widow of forty. Much interest has been felt in the event, owing to the prominence of the contracting parties. In company with a party of friends the happy groom left Clarksville this morning by private conveyance and proceeded to Guthrie where the party were joined by other friends. The genial Polk Prince, of the latter place, was on hand according to appointment. His services in such matters are invaluable, and he was accordingly deputized to pilot the party to the home of the bride, about four miles distant from Guthrie.

Promptly at half-past 2 the wedding party drove up to the palatial residence of Mr. Mitchell. A few of the intimate friends of the family were assembled in the parlor. After a short interval, the bridal couple made their appearance, when the Rev. George L. Beale performed the ceremony as prescribed by the impressive marriage ritual of the Methodist Church. Congratulations were showered on the lucky pair, who departed at once for their elegant new home at Clarksville and I were met there by a host of warm friends, who expressed all manner of good wishes for their future happiness. Mr. Ingram has won a bride whose social and domestic attributes are of the highest order, and has set an example which other of his less enterprising brother journalists might well emulate. The newspaper fraternity extend to them their heartiest congratulations.

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